

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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~~INFORMATION REPORT~~

COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT The "Liga del Fusil", a Secret Military Fraternity NO. OF PAGES 1

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REPORT NO.**

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1. The "Liga del Fusil" in Ecuador is a clandestine military organization, which, although believed to be small in numbers, encompasses all major military units in the Army. The membership list also includes retired military personnel. It is described as being a secret fraternity of military men who have dedicated themselves to serve the welfare of the nation. The organization is believed to be rightist in character as well as being very nationalistic.
2. The League, which was started in 1947 in the military garrison at Tulcan among the Yaguachi Cavalry Regiment, is presently believed to be headed by Dr. Mario Zapata Martinez. Victor M. Villegas is known to be one of the principal couriers for the organization. Villegas is also employed by the Ministry of National Defense to transport cargoes to various military garrisons throughout the country.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment. Although this group is not believed sufficiently large to pose a serious threat, it is reported as a possible revolutionary factor in Ecuador.)

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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